



# Excellence in Corps Operations (ECO)

## **The Excellence in Corps Operations (ECO) Peer Evaluation Program:**

- Is a standards-based self-assessment process developed by The Corps Network and experts from Service and Conservation Corps nationwide.
- Is approved by the Corporation for National and Community Service as meeting the federal requirement for evaluation of AmeriCorps grantees receiving less than \$500,000 per year.
- Recognizes Service and Conservation Corps that make a commitment to high-quality standards and continuous improvement.
- Focuses on Service and Conservation Corps performance in the following areas: Purpose and Activities, Organization and Management, Program Design, Corpsmember Development, Work Experience and Service Projects, and Evidence of Success.
- Provides a cost-effective assessment that allows small community-based organizations to conduct thorough self-evaluations.
- Has promoted excellence since the program was initiated in 1986 and formalized in 2001.
- Has awarded more than 40 Service and Conservation Corps ECO status since 2001.
- Provides access to lessons learned through program assessment that capture years of effective practices as shared through The Corps Network's online resource center.

## **Service and Conservation Corps:**

- Enroll primarily disadvantaged youth and young adults in full-time community service, training and education in exchange for a stipend, educational benefits and scholarships.
- Meet key community needs by completing meaningful service and conservation projects.
- Are a proven, effective means of addressing a wide array of challenges facing young people, including a lack of education, insufficient job skills and court involvement.
- Annually enroll 23,000 young people who contribute 13 million hours of service per year.
- Operate in 41 states and the District of Columbia through 113 Service and Conservation Corps.
- Are a direct descendent of the Civilian Conservation Corps of the 1930s and 1940s.

## **The Corps Network:**

- Represents the modern Corps movement nationally.
- Advocates for the needs of young people, especially in the areas of education, job readiness, educational access and civic engagement.
- Builds national partnerships with federal agencies, funders and other organizations to administer national projects which support local Corps.
- Assures quality programs and provides training and technical assistance to local Corps.

For more information about **The Corps Network** or the ECO Peer Evaluation Program, please visit [www.corpsnetwork.org](http://www.corpsnetwork.org) or contact Matt Ferris at (202) 737-6272 or [mferris@corpsnetwork.org](mailto:mferris@corpsnetwork.org).

| ECO Corps  |            |
|--|------------|
| Organization   | Award Year |
| Baltimore Civic Works  | 2002       |
| California Conservation Corps                                | 2001       |
| Citizen's Conservation Corps of West Virginia                | 2003       |
| Coconino Rural Environment Corps                             | 2005       |
| Conservation Corps of Long Beach                             | 2001       |
| EarthCorps   | 2002       |
| East Bay Conservation Corps                                  | 2003       |
| Fresno Local Conservation Corps                              | 2004       |
| Greater Miami Service Corps                                  | 2001       |
| Larimer County Summer Youth Corps                            | 2001       |
| Los Angeles Conservation Corps                               | 2003       |
| Maine Conservation Corps                                     | 2002       |
| Marin Conservation Corps                                     | 2001       |
| Mile High Youth Corps  | 2001       |
| Minnesota Conservation Corps                                 | 2005       |
| Montana Conservation Corps                                   | 2003       |
| Montgomery County Conservation Corps                         | 2003       |
| NJYC of Camden - The Work Group                              | 2003       |
| Northwest Piedmont Service Corps                             | 2006       |
| Northwest Youth Corps  | 2004       |
| Operation Fresh Start  | 2006       |
| OPP (Hartford AmeriCorps)                                    | 2003       |
| Orange County Conservation Corps                             | 2001       |
| Pennsylvania Conservation Corps                              | 2002       |
| Rocky Mountain Youth Corps - CO                              | 2003       |
| Rocky Mountain Youth Corps - NM                              | 2001       |
| Sacramento Local Conservation Corps                          | 2001       |
| San Francisco Conservation Corps                             | 2001       |
| San Francisco Conservation Corps ECO Center                  | 2001       |
| San Francisco Conservation Corps Learning Center             | 2001       |
| San Francisco Conservation Corps Presidio Restoration Center | 2001       |
| San Jose Conservation Corps & Charter School                 | 2002       |
| Southwest Conservation Corps                                 | 2003       |
| Tulare County Conservation Corps                             | 2002       |
| Urban Corps of San Diego                                     | 2002       |
| Utah Conservation Corps                                      | 2004       |
| Vermont Youth Conservation Corps                             | 2003       |
| Washington Conservation Corps                                | 2002       |
| Washington Conservation Corps                                | 2002       |
| Washington Service Corps                                     | 2001       |
| West Seneca Service Action Corps                             | 2002       |
| Western Colorado Conservation Corps                          | 2006       |
| Youth Conservation Corps, Inc.                               | 2001       |
| Youth Resource Development Corporation                       | 2002       |